

From: John Blake
To: Lynn Kunzler
Date: 01/09/2008 10:28 AM
Subject: Redmond Limestone Quarry

Mr. Lynn Kunzler
Reclamation Specialist
DOGM

I understand that Western Clay Company recently completed reclamation of certain lands disturbed by its limestone mining operations upon trust lands under mineral lease ML 29434, located near Redmond. The Trust Lands Administration accordingly consents to the release of such reclaimed acreage from the DOGM mining permit.

Thank you for your consultation in this matter.

John Blake
Minerals Specialist
SITLA

Bond Release Findings

Mine Name: Redmond Limestone Quarry
Operator: Western Clay Company

I.D. No.: M/041/0004
Mineral Ownership: SITLA
Surface Ownership: SITLA
Permit Term: Year original permit granted

Disturbed Area: 17.28 Acres
Regraded: 10.14
Reseeded: 10.14

Acres Bonded: 7.14 acres
Acres Proposed for Release: 10.14
Acres Released: 10.14
Acres Remaining: 7.14

NOTE: *no Bond held for the 10.14 acres
being released,*

Surety

Amount: \$25,000
Form: LOC - Zion's Bank
Amount Proposed for Release: No surety to be released.
Amount Remaining: \$25,000

Setting and Premining Environment

This site is located approximately 2 miles due east of Redmond and 4 miles north of Salina Utah. The site is within the desert shrub community and surrounding areas have been drastically impacted by overgrazing as determined by indicator species such as broom snakeweed and cheatgrass. There has been limestone extraction from this area for several decades (pre-dating the enactment of the Mined Land Reclamation Act).

Operations

This site is operated intermittently to obtain limestone materials. Material is quarried with an excavator with occasional blasting. Material is loaded on trucks and hauled to Western Clay's plant in Aurora, Utah. There are no facilities on site. Mining has generally removed the surface of a limestone dome, with the quarry floor being at or near the valley floor (no pit). The dome rises approximately 30 feet above the valley floor.

Reclamation

The area proposed for release was reclaimed in 2001-2002. Reclamation was accomplished by regrading the overburden material on the disturbed areas to blend in with the surrounding topography. The area was amended with 5-ton/acre of manure and seeded with the approved seed mix.

Mine Engineering

Public Safety: Access to the area is signed. The reclaimed area is generally flat to low slopes. There are no pits, highwalls or deleterious materials within the reclaimed area.

Slopes and Highwalls: The only highwalls remaining are within the active permit area. There is no vehicle access to the top of the highwall areas.

Roads: a small portion of the access road crosses a portion of the reclaimed area on the northern side. This section of road will require reclamation with mining is completed.

Hydrology

There are no surface drainages in the permit area. There is no evidence of erosion problems or runoff channels leaving the site. There are no dams, impoundments or pits that would retain significant water on the reclaimed area.

Release Findings

Redmond Limestone Quarry

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Revegetation

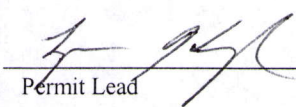
Postmining landuse: The proposed postmining landuse for this area is grazing and wildlife habitat. Since the revegetated area is in better range condition than the surrounding un-mined area, it is assumed that the land use objective is met. Note, there are no fences that would exclude wildlife or grazing animals from utilizing the reclaimed area.

Topsoil: The area reclaimed was disturbed prior to the Mined Land Reclamation Act that required topsoil salvage for reclamation. Without topsoil, the operator amended the overburden materials with manure and to make a suitable plant growth medium.

Revegetation: The area was broadcast seeded late fall of 2002. (5 years ago). On November 20, 2007, the site was inspected while in the area. The Operator was anticipating submittal of the release request in the near future. Vegetation on the reclaimed portion included fourwing saltbush, shadscale, Indian ricegrass, and wheatgrass (intermediate or thickspike), and provided an average ground cover of 20%. The surrounding area had less than 10% ground cover of desirable species and was dominated by broom snakeweed and cheatgrass (both of which were lacking on the reclaimed area). The inspector concluded that the revegetation requirement had been achieved.

Recommendation

While the operator requested release of 10.75 acres, only 10.14 acres can be released at this time. The remaining .61 acres is access road that will require reclamation once mining is completed. No surety will be released. With this proposed action. When the surety was reviewed and updated in August of 2003, there was no surety amount retained for the areas that had been reclaimed in 2002. It is therefore recommended that Western Clay Company be released from further reclamation obligations on the 10.14 acres that were reclaimed in 2001-2002.



Permit Lead

January 9, 2008

Date